THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Retention prices of urea units arc being fixed in accordance with the provisions of the Retention Pricc-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS). RPS provides for fixation of retention price of individual units on per tonne basis, after taking into account the normative capacity utilization level prescribed under the Scheme and a combination of norms and actuals in respect of the various cost elements and expenses. Pre-tax return on'net-worth corresponding to post tax return of 12% is given as pan of the retention price after covering various elements of cost. This scheme has been continued till 30-6-1997 and the Government is in the process of finalising the pricing policy for the period beyond 1-7-1997. Meanwhile subsidy is being paid to the units on *ad-hoc* basis on the principles of RPS Scheme.

Further, the Government is in the process of examination of recommendations of high Powered Fertilizers Pricing Polio.' Review Committee (April 199S) and Expenditure Reforms Commission (September 20(H)), views of Slate Governments/fertilizer industry/workers associations etc. to finalise a new pricing policy for urea.

Closure of Durgapur and Haldia plants of HJF'L

2002. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) Whether Govcrnmcn are considering the closure of Durgapur and Haldia Plants of Hindustan Fertilizers Limited.

(b) if so. the details < hereof; and

(c) what is the numl er of workers employed in these two plants, since when they arc not being oaid their wages and what steps are proposed to be taken to clear their wage arrears and other statutory dues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SAVYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) While a decision has already been taken by the Government lo close/hive ofTlhc Haldia Fertilizer Project of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC), the rehabilitation proposal of HFC including the Durgapur plant, based on unit wise

viability was considered by the competent authority in the Government on 31 -5-2001. A Group of Ministers has been constituted to examine the proposal and submit its recommendations.

(c) The work-force in the Haldia Fertilizer Project and the Durgapur Plant is 1356 and 1306, respectively, as on 1 -11 -2001. The company is making payments of salary/wages and statutory dues regularly and there arc no arrears in this regard.

Foreign Technology for Manufacturing Bulk Drugs

2003. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) What is the nature and details of the foreign technology available in India for manufacturing bulk drugs, following the automatic approval for foreign technology agreements: and

(b) What arc the intermediates and/or formulations that can be manufactured using those bulk drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) the nature and'details of the technologies and processes arc confidential.

FDI in Pharma Industry

2004. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount of FDI in pharma industry through automatic route, after it was raised to 100 per cent:

(b) which dnigs are being manufactured by those 100 per cent foreign companies: and

(c) which diseases can be treated by those medicines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The information will be collected and laid on the Tabic of the House.